

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ronald A. Katz

Serial No: 08/306,650

Filed: September 14, 1994

For: TELEPHONIC-INTERFACE
LOTTERY SYSTEM

Docket No.: 228/035
(prev. dkt. nos. 9002/1B680US4 and
6646-101N5)

Examiner: S. Woo

Art Unit: 2743

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

February 11, 1998

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 11, 1997, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: February 11, 1998

Connie Kwon
Connie Kwon

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 79, 119, 130, and 131 as follows, and cancel claims 24, 27-38, 40-55, 78, and 80-106 and 111-118, without prejudice.

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79. (Twice Amended) A telephonic-interface control system [as defined in claim 78,
wherein] for use with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for
individual callers to call, including voice communication means, and digital input means in the
form of an array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing identification data, said telephonic-
interface control system comprising:
interface means coupled to said communication facility to interface said remote
terminal apparatus for voice and digital communication with said individual callers based
upon dialed number identification signals (DNIS) indicative of a called number provided
automatically from said communication facility;
voice generator means coupled through said interface means for providing vocal
instructions to an individual caller to enter data and identification data;
processing means for processing said data supplied by said individual callers, said
processing means coupled to said interface means and selecting at least one subset of at
least one caller from said individual callers;
qualification means coupled to said interface means for limiting access to said
processing means based upon comparing said identification data with previously stored
identification data, said qualification means for limiting access [comprises] comprising a
consumable key test means to qualify callers with respect to limited access, said
consumable key test means including a check digit verification, and

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means for storing coupled to said interface means for storing said data in
association with said previously stored identification data.

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Contd.

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119.

(Amended) A method for conducting a telephonic-interface ticket control operation for use with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for individual callers, including a voice communication device, and a digital input device in the form of an array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing identification data, comprising the steps of:

providing dialed number identification signals automatically from the communication facility (DNIS) to provide digital identification data indicating a called number, wherein said called number is indicative of an interactive call processing format selected from a plurality of different interactive call processing formats under control of said dialed number identification signals (DNIS);

assigning [a] at least one predetermined limit on access to said interactive call processing format;

providing an identification number on a ticket, said identification number entered by each individual caller via said digital input device to access said interactive call processing format until said at least one predetermined limit is reached and providing visual indicia on said ticket illustrative of a name of a specific interactive call processing format from a plurality of names of interactive call processing formats wherein said visual indicia further includes a specific visual theme associated with said interactive call processing format taken from a plurality of visual themes associated with a plurality of different interactive call processing formats;

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21 storing data indicative of an extent of access accomplished for said identification
22 number entered by each individual caller;
23 testing said data indicative of said extent of access accomplished against said at
24 least one predetermined limit on access to determine if said at least one predetermined
25 limit on access is reached;
26 providing a distinct indicia associated with said ticket;
27 prompting said individual callers via a voice generator to enter data;
28 storing at least certain of said data responsive to said prompting step; and
29 co-relating said distinct indicia to at least a portion of said identification number.

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1 130. (Amended) A method for conducting a telephonic-interface ticket control operation
2 for use with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for individual callers,
3 including voice communication means, and digital input means in the form of an array of
4 alphabetic numeric buttons for providing identification data, comprising the steps of:
5 providing dialed number identification signals automatically from the
6 communication facility (DNIS) to provide digital identification data indicating a called
7 number, wherein said called number is indicative of an interactive call processing format
8 selected from a plurality of different interactive call processing formats under control of
9 said dialed number identification signals (DNIS);
10 assigning [a] at least one predetermined limit on access to said interactive call
11 processing format;
12 providing an identification number on a ticket, said identification number entered
13 by each individual caller via said digital input device to access said interactive call

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14 processing format until said at least one predetermined limit is reached and providing
15 visual indicia on said ticket illustrative of a name of a specific interactive call processing
16 format from a plurality of names of interactive call processing formats wherein said
17 visual indicia further includes a specific visual theme associated with said interactive call
18 processing format taken from a plurality of visual themes associated with a plurality of
19 different interactive call processing formats;

20 storing data indicative of an extent of access accomplished for said identification
21 number entered by each individual caller;

22 testing said data indicative of said extent of access accomplished against said at
23 least one predetermined limit on access to determine if said at least one predetermined
24 limit on access is reached and further testing to limit access during [a] at least one
25 predetermined interval of time;

26 providing a distinct indicia associated with said ticket;

27 prompting said individual callers via a voice generator to enter data;

28 storing at least certain of said data responsive to said prompting step; and

29 providing indicia indicating a toll free number for callers to dial from a plurality
30 of toll free numbers, where said indicia indicative of said toll free number is related to a
31 specific one of said visual themes.

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1 131. (Amended) A method for conducting a telephonic-interface ticket control operation
2 for use with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for individual callers,
3 including a voice communication device, and a digital input device in the form of an array of
4 alphabetic numeric buttons for providing identification data, comprising the steps of:

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5 providing dialed number identification signals automatically from the
6 communication facility (DNIS) to provide digital identification data indicating a called
7 number from a plurality of called numbers and wherein said called number is indicative
8 of said interactive call processing format selected from a plurality of different interactive
9 call processing formats under control of said dialed number identification signals (DNIS)
10 and wherein said called number is indicative of said interactive call processing format
11 selected from a plurality of different interactive call processing formats under control of
12 said dialed number identification signals (DNIS);

13 assigning [a] at least one predetermined limit on access to an interactive call
14 processing format;

15 providing an identification number on a ticket, said identification number entered
16 by each individual caller via said digital input device to access said interactive call
17 processing format until said at least one predetermined limit is reached;

18 storing data indicative of an extent of access accomplished for said identification
19 number entered by each individual caller;

20 testing said data indicative of said extent of access accomplished against said at
21 least one predetermined limit on access to determine if said at least one predetermined
22 limit on access is reached and further testing to limit access during [a] at least one
23 predetermined interval of time;

24 providing a distinct indicia associated with said ticket and co-relating said distinct
25 indicia to at least a portion of said identification number;

26 providing visual indicia on said ticket illustrative of a name of a specific
27 interactive call processing format from a plurality of names of interactive call processing

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28 formats and wherein said visual indicia further includes a specific visual theme associated
29 with said interactive call processing format taken from a plurality of visual themes
30 associated with a plurality of different interactive call processing formats;
31 prompting said individual callers via a voice generator to enter data; and
32 storing at least certain of said data responsive to said prompting step.

33 [Please add the following new claims 144-145.]

34 1 ~~4144~~ ³⁹ A method according to claim ~~119~~ ²⁸, wherein at least certain digits of said
35 2 identification data entered by each individual caller indicate a select telephone subformat. ~~41~~

36 1 ~~4145~~ ⁴¹ A method according to claim ~~130~~ ⁴⁰, wherein at least certain digits of said
37 2 identification data entered by each individual caller indicate a select telephone subformat. ~~41~~

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the final office action dated December 11, 1997.

Applicant is submitting his response by February 11, 1998, within two months from the mailing date of the final office action (December 11, 1997). Accordingly, Applicant solicits an advisory communication from the Examiner in the event any outstanding issues remain.

Claims 24-143 are indicated in the office action as pending, of which claims 56, 58-77, 119-143 are allowed, and claims 57 and 79 are objected to. Claims 24-55, 78, and 80-118 are rejected. It should be noted that claims 25, 26, and 39 stand canceled. Applicant appreciates allowance and allowability of the claims indicated here. With respect to rejected claims 107-

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110, Applicant notes that claims 107-108 ultimately depend on claim 56, which stands allowed, and claims 109-110 ultimately depend on claim 63, which also stands allowed. The Examiner has rejected these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Entenmann in view of Hester and further in view of Barr and Muller et al. Applicant submits that claims 107-110 incorporate the limitations of claims 56 and 63, from which they depend, and should be allowable for the same reasons that claims 56 and 63 are allowable.

By this amendment, Applicant has amended allowed claims 119, 130, and 131 to further clarify them. Before every occurrence of the recitation "predetermined limit on access," Applicant has replaced "a" with --at least one--. Although "a predetermined limit on access" clearly covers one or more limits, to avoid any possible misinterpretation of claims 119, 130, and 131, Applicant has amended them to explicitly recite as such.

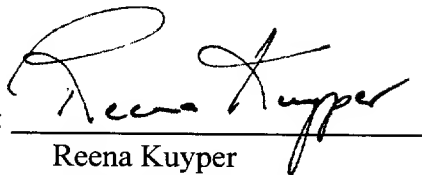
Also, on page 3 of the office action, the Examiner indicated that claims 57 and 79 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant notes that claim 57 depends on claim 56, which stands allowed. Thus, the Examiner is requested to withdraw her objection of claim 57. Claim 79 depends on rejected claim 78 and it has been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 78.

In addition, claims 24, 27-38, 40-55, 78, and 80-118, which presently stand rejected, have been canceled, without prejudice, and are being transferred to a continuation application contemporaneously filed with this amendment.

Finally, Applicant has added claims 144-145, which depend on allowed claims 119 and 130, respectively. Both claims 144-145 recite the same limitation as recited by claim 130, which

also stands allowed. Accordingly, neither of claims 144-145 recite new matter. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and allow claims 144-145.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Reena Kuyper
Registration No. 33,830

Lyon & Lyon, LLP
First Interstate World Center
633 West Fifth Street, Ste. 4700
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2066
(213) 489-1600

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

February 11, 1998

Box AF
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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above-identified case is an Amendment After Final Action.

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Connie Kwon
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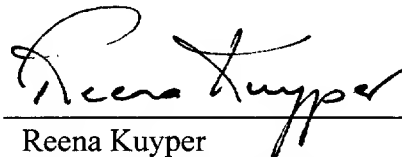
The fee for the claims has been calculated as shown:

	Claims Remaining After <u>Amendment</u>	Highest Number Previously <u>Paid For</u>		Extra <u>Present</u>	<u>Rate</u>		Additional
					<u>Small Entity</u>	<u>Large Fee</u>	
Total	50	- 117	=	0	x 11	x 22 =	\$ 0
Indep. 6		- 8	=	0	x 41	x 82 =	\$ 0
1st presentation of multiple dep. claim					+ 135	+ 270 =	\$ 0
Total additional fee							\$ 0

No additional fee is due. Please charge any deficiencies in connection with this communication, including any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 12-2475.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Reena Kuyper
Registration No. 33,830

Lyon & Lyon, LLP
First Interstate World Center
633 West Fifth Street, Ste. 4700
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2066
(213) 489-1600

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